REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116 – EXPEDITED TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1614

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

: 1614

Customer No.: 035811

Docket No.: TIP-04-1339

Confirmation No.: 9964

Examiner

: Shirley V. Gembeh

Serial No.

: 10/520,809

Filed

: January 10, 2005

Inventors

: Koji Kawai

: Akiyoshi Saito

: Tomohiko Suzuki

: Ko Hasebe

: Tsutomu Suzuki

Title

: THERAPEUTIC OR PREVENTIVE AGENT

: FOR NAUSEA/VOMITING

Dated: February 6, 2008

RESPONSE

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is submitted in response to the Official Action dated September 7, 2007.

Claims 11 - 12, 14 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over Portoghese taken with Rudd in view of Neeleman as evidenced by Meijer. This is set forth in the middle of page 3 of the Official Action. It appears, based on the comments following the rejection that the rejection is really based on Portoghese in view of Rudd. The Applicants respectfully submit that one skilled in the art would not make the combination inasmuch as there would be no reasonable expectation of success in making such a hypothetical combination. Details are set forth below.

The Applicants believe that the essence of the rejection is summarized as follows:

(1) Portoghese discloses the adverse effect of morphine (see col. 1, lines 15-24), wherein one such effect is vomiting. If a ligand acts at a single opioid

PHIL1\3858818.1

P.S 3/17/08 entered w/ RCE 3/7/08